

Emails received at historic@roundrocktexas.gov as of Thursday, April 14, 2016 4:30 p.m. (newest first)

4/13/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Inn **Body:** To the members of the Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission.

Greetings. I read with much dismay articles in the news about the possible destruction of the historic Stagecoach Inn. As a member of a family of that moved to Round Rock in 1977, I admit to being appalled at the prospect of losing this most historic building. We are a creative and prosperous community. Surely an appropriate solution can be devised. Granted the building must be moved. But we don't have to lose it. Please find a way to move the structure to the vicinity of the new Bathing Beach. Make it a historical addition to the Chisholm Trail. We can afford bronze statues marking the history of the Trail, but can manage to save the most historic structure associated with the Chisholm Trail? That makes no sense. What a wonderful addition it would make to the Rock, the Trail and all the other reminders of Old Round Rock. This is an opportunity that, once lost, we'll never have again. There are very few surviving stagecoach stops left in Texas. The stagecoach era was an important part of Texas history. And one with very few surviving physical remnants. Please use your influence and creative energy to save this building as a community asset. Certainly grant money is available for this kind of historic preservation. Don't let this opportunity pass. Save the historic Stagecoach Inn as a community asset. In Round Rock, where it belongs. Thank you for your attention. I'm hopeful that you can do the right thing.

4/13/16 **Subject:** Please save Stagecoach Inn **Body:** It is important to save historical markers. Please reconsider your plans and let's keep this historical place. Thank you.

4/12/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Depot **Body:** Please save the historical stagecoach inn on 620. This is part of our history and needs to be preserved. How else are we going to teach our children about history and the value of our ancestors' contributions?

4/12/16 **Subject:** SAVE **Body:** Save the Round Rock, TX Old Stage Coach Inn.

4/12/16 **Subject:** Do not demolish the Stage Coach Inn **Body:** Please do not demolish the Stage coach Inn. It is a historical site. It is needed for the heritage of Round Rock. Thanks.

4/12/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Inn **Body:** Please do whatever possible to save the Inn.

4/11/16 **Subject:** SAVE The Old Stage Coach Inn **Body:** To everyone that has anything to do with decisions regarding Round Rocks historic buildings:

Please do not move or destroy The Old Stage Coach Inn.

I moved to Round Rock over 20 years ago. For all these years I have had the pleasure to show visitors my towns' rich history. The Old Stage Coach Inn is a big part of our history. I cannot believe there is even a thought to tear it down or relocate it to put an overpass there. I did not move here and invest my life in this town and its welfare to become Austin-like. I feel sure I speak for so many others.

I have signed the petition. It's time now, for all of us to hear from the historic and government organizations - alternative ideas about how this, and all other historic Round Rock sites, will be left in place for the education and enjoyment of generations to come. Best regards, -- [second message:] My vote is to go with the elevated railroad. Thank you, --

- 3/30/16 **Subject:** Save the Inn **Body:** Again it is happening. Destruction of our history by people who have not lived here or grown up here. We must save the inn. What is next, the destruction of the "ROUND ROCK". Stop the destruction of our city. SAVE THE INN.
- 3/25/16 **Subject:** Save the Round Rock, TX Old Stage Coach Inn **Body:** Folks, I've been searching for an older, possibly historic home for a few months now and have not found anything that suits me. I was actually considering moving away from Round Rock to as far as Taylor/Granger/Thrall to find an old home with enough land to grow my own food and let my dogs run.
- This building would actually fill my needs. I am a professional photographer and need a location for customers to come for portraiture, a space for darkroom work because I still use film/chemistry, and office space because I work from home for Dell as a planner.
- I would be thrilled to live in and work in a structure like this and also be a part of Round Rock's history. It would be a tragedy to let this beautiful bldg. disappear.
- Let's explore this, please. Thanks. --
- 3/24/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Inn **Body:** Hello I am keen to keep up with this project, what's the best avenue for that? Is there a website, blog, or regular email, or do I need to come in in person? Thank you -- Former member/ Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission
- 3/24/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Inn **Body:** I think it is important that the Inn be preserved and not torn down. I grew up in Liberty, TX and the city there didn't do enough to protect the history of that town. At one time Sam Houston had his law office in the city and it was torn down to build a parking lot for a bank. That building could've been a big draw for people and no one saw the value in it. It is important for a town, especially one that is growing as fast as Round Rock is, to protect its history. History helps with identity and people appreciate seeing the history of a town when they visit, or even if they live there. I would be very sad if this building were lost just to straighten out a road.
- 3/24/16 **Subject:** Please Save the RR Stage Coach Inn **Body:** I want to share my serious concern about the plan to destroy or move this amazing Texas (and Round Rock) historical treasure.
- The builder of the Round Rock Stage Coach Inn, John J. Harris, is my great-great-great grandfather on my father's side. Over many years our family has taken significant pride from this connection and the Inn's impact in Texas history. This was a highlight story told in my family throughout the years at family gatherings. I am a very (typical) prideful Texan who highly values our great state's unique history.
- John J. Harris' descendants settled in Stephenville, TX. John J's son, John P. Harris, raised 4 sons in Stephenville. We still have land and the property there where they raised 3 generations of our family.
- I am in favor of keeping the property preserved in its current location. I understand that "all options" have been apparently considered, but I doubt that the interests of the Inn have taken proper priority over traffic and other considerations. I certainly recognize the complexities involved. I don't feel moving it is a good approach, posing major risk to the integrity and beauty of the structure. Moving the Inn also changes the inherent historic nature of the location...right on the Chisholm Trail, a foundational piece of Texas history.
- I welcome further discussion or forums to revisit the end gameplan. Please advise on the specific opportunities for input and the upcoming sequence of events.
- Best regards,

3/23/16

Subject: The Stagecoach Inn **Body:**

I showed up at City Hall the other day for the meeting as soon as I got off of work to hear what is to become of this FANTASTIC landmark, but I guess I had just missed the meeting since I got off of work so late? Did it end really early?? Is there another meeting coming up soon at which the fate of this landmark will be discussed?

I am blown away by the fact that the Old Stagecoach Inn is NOT a protected historic landmark already (It apparently ISN'T, is it??). How did THAT happen? And can that be CHANGED at this point?

This is an atrocity to stomach, considering that this is a landmark that is as innocent at the times of old.....symbolic of what made America great, when people fought hard to create a better life for themselves and for the future generations to come.

I feel VERY strongly that straightening a roadway will not cause traffic to flow more freely, as long as people hold cell phones in-hand while driving. The historic building is not the issue: it's distracted driving.....PERIOD. Ever drive on the toll road in the mornings or in the evenings at peak traffic hours? How many lanes wide is that thing at its NARROWEST, and what is the average speed limit of said toll road??

Yet, when in the thick of traffic hours, I still find myself stuck going 55 on the toll road behind the ever-present "rolling road block" of which Austin's distracted drivers comprise the ENTIRETY of the traffic congestion.

Same story with 620. You could pave a twenty lane highway right there, tear down every historic building along its path - one year old to one HUNDRED years old, and I bet I'll STILL be stuck in traffic behind "Mr. and Mrs. I-Phone User", and the span of nineteen cars driving in a straight line alongside of them in like fashion, each with cell phones in-hand in a ginormous rolling road block.

Just today, as a matter of fact, as I drove westbound on 620 from I-35, just before the Chisholm Trail intersection, an 18-wheeler driver (to his credit, he was at LEAST in the right/slow lane), didn't bother to peak above 20 mph, even long after he drove through the green light there; he peaked at 20 mph long after that light had turned green without regard to the one hundred people stacked up behind him. It looked like he was checking his FaceBook while driving or something, and didn't care at ALL who needed to be where at what time.

PLEASE do what you can to get the word out that this is not the solution to the problem, the mere straightening of a roadway alone, nor would the widening of it, as is exemplified in the nearly daily story of my daily toll road ventures.

What can I do as an individual to help with this - to make the Old Stagecoach Inn invincible, the way it should have been from the get-go?

Let's not destroy history for the promise of "progress" that, in the end, will amount to no better results, anyway. It takes but only two distracted drivers driving side-by-side in the two available lanes, driving in each direction, to cause a traffic jam.....not some silly CURVE in a roadway.

Begging to preserve awesome Round Rock history, as a proud resident here since 2000.

VERY Proud Round Rock Resident

3/22/16

Subject: Save the Inn **Body:** Please make every effort to save the historic Old Stage Coach Inn. We must all diligently work to preserve our history especially including those old important structures.

3/17/16 **Subject:** The Old Stagecoach Inn **Body:** In Portugal, there are several similar buildings of stone that the Portuguese government has turned in to bed and breakfasts called "pousadas". There are manor houses, monasteries, and castles. I think they started doing this around the 1940s until around 2003 when they were privatized. It's a source of revenue and creates jobs.

If it must be moved, there is a great spot near Egger Park which is across from Advanced Auto Parts on South Mays. The property has a stone wall around part of it, and is close to McNeil and I-35.

The traffic, however, is another issue, and I feel that the Stagecoach Inn is worth saving and is not a contributing factor to the traffic congestion. Although it seems folks are wanting to build a bridge because of the train regardless of the reasons, they could extend Lakewood Lane east to the frontage road (south of Sprouts) to bypass the RR tracks.

Furthermore, Wonder Rd. and Clark Street could be extended south to 620 so that traffic can bypass the tracks and head north to Sam Bass. This area is industrial so folks aren't disturbing a residential neighborhood.

Anyway, it's worth researching solutions that are working around the country. I've had to do similar in the past, and it was worth the effort as I was able to find solutions for the problem at the time. The good thing is, research is much easier now-information comes to you, and from a wider range than just input from locals.

Good luck and I hope things work out. It's a beautiful piece of history and worth saving.

3/17/16 **Subject:** test **Body:** I received your reply. It looks like you're up and running. Thanks.

3/17/16 **Subject:** Historic Stagecoach Inn **Body:** If we keep tearing down our historic buildings we will have no uniqueness to our town, no identity. Where is our identity? What separates us from other towns? Hairy man road is being destroyed, the trails are all made of concrete and we hired a city manager from Dallas. Who likes Dallas?

Who is responsible for these terrible ideas? I would love to voice my opinion to the SOB who has made a great town just another suburb with mediocre activities and ideas. Thank you, --

3/24/16 [reply] Thank you. We should have a fund set up to preserve these buildings. If not, this is what we get.

3/17/16 **Subject:** test **Body:** [reply info]

3/16/16 **Subject:** Stagecoach Inn **Body:** Here's a thought, why not use a roundabout or a split around the Inn, if its 2 lanes?

3/16/16 **Subject:** test **Body:** [reporter's reply info]